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FM AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0006
INFO RUCNRAQ/IRAQ COLLECTIVE
RUEHBM/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST 0036
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 0070
RUEHSN/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR 0016
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN 0010
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC//NSC//
RHMFISS/CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

UNCLAS BAGHDAD 003351

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
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SUBJECT: PM MALIKI TO MOVE ON INVITATIONS TO FOUR COALITION
MEMBERS

1. (SBU) Summary. Prime Minister Nuri al-Malaki has agreed to the U.S. request to formally invite four countries - Australia, El Salvador, Romania, and Estonia - to maintain forces in Iraq for non-combat purposes following January 1, 2009. End Summary.

2. (SBU) In a letter dated October 16, 2008, Iraqi National Security Advisor Mowaffak al Rubaie informed the Ambassador and General Odierno that the Prime Minister had agreed to send invitations per the U.S. request to four members of the coalition - Australia, El Salvador, Romania, and Estonia - to remain in Iraq and provide non-combat assistance for the Iraq Security Forces after January 1, 2009. This letter was in response to a letter sent by the Ambassador and General Odierno clarifying discussions on this issue. The Embassy will follow up to make sure that the invitations are transmitted. Text of the letter is below.

3. (SBU) Text of the letter:

Begin Text.

16 October 2008

Ambassador Ryan C. Crocker
United States Embassy, Baghdad

General Raymond T. Odierno
Multi-National Force-Iraq

Dear Ambassador Crocker and General Odierno,

The Prime Minister has asked me to respond for him to your letter of 14 October 2008 recommending that Iraq invite four countries - Australia, El Salvador, Romania, and Estonia - to remain in Iraq carrying out non-combat assistance to Iraqi Security Forces after 1 January 2009.

The Prime Minister has agreed with your request.

I shall work with the Office of the Prime Minister to provide appropriate invitations for this purpose.

Sincerely,

Signed

Mowaffak al Rubaie
National Security Advisor
Republic of Iraq

End text.

